

HONORING RITA C. KAY

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 2003*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the numerous contributions made by Rita Kay for the children of Long Island. A selfless and dedicated woman, Rita has spent more than 30 years working on a variety of children's causes, and is well known for her intense involvement in Children's Medical Fund of New York (CMF).

Rita was compelled to ease the plight of sick children because of a combination of personal tragedy and great joy. After suffering several miscarriages and the pain of a stillborn child, Rita and her husband Barry were blessed with the births of their two sons, Brian and Bradley. In a fervent desire to help sick children and their parents, Rita joined CMF, the fundraising component of Schneider Children's Hospital of the North Shore—Long Island Jewish Health System. Through her many efforts, Rita has helped build the children's hospital into the 13th largest pediatric care center.

Rita's love for, and devotion to, children has been evidenced by the numerous events she has chaired and in which she has participated. Rita is best known for the longstanding relationship she has nurtured between Americana Manhasset shopping center and CMF, and the successful fashion luncheon sponsored by the Americana on behalf of CMF. The luncheon has helped CMF raise hundreds of thousands of dollars since its inception.

Rita's fundraising efforts have included an emphasis on corporate sponsorship. Under her leadership, Roslyn Savings Bank and Astoria Federal have become involved in CMF. Most recently, Rita co-chaired CMF's Wall Street Dinner Dance at Chelsea Piers, which raised an astronomical \$4,000,000 for CMF and Schneider Children's Hospital.

Rita's hard work is more incredible because of the number of other organizations in which she is involved. Rita supports and fundraises for Partner's in Women's Health, the Long Island Cancer Campaign, the Ronald McDonald House, the Mental Health Association of Nassau County, and the Nassau County Museum of Art. All of this, in addition to her full-time job as the Marketing Director for David Morse & Associates.

Despite all of Rita's volunteer efforts, her priority remains her family. Today, Rita is surrounded not only by her husband Barry and their sons Brian and Bradley, but also her daughters-in-law Helaine and Caren, and her four grandchildren, Jesse, Logan, Dylan and Zoe. They are incredibly proud of Rita for all of her hard work and accomplishments over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Rita Kay for her dedication and devotion to the children of Long Island.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HANS AND ALMA ROEBBELEN ON 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 2003*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate two good friends from my district in California, Hans and Alma Roebbelen, as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

Hans and Alma were born and raised in Europe, where they experienced the horrors of World War II firsthand. Hans endured challenges as a 15-year-old prisoner of war, while Alma had to flee her homeland before the advancing Russian army at the age of only 13.

When the chaos of war finally settled, Hans worked as a journeyman carpenter. Little did he know as such a young man that he would one day become a renowned builder half the world away. Later, Hans earned an architecture degree from the University in Buxtehude, and it was there that he met and fell in love with his future bride, Alma, who had embarked upon a career as a dental hygienist.

Shortly thereafter, Alma followed a professional opportunity that took her to Stockton, California. Although he wanted to follow her, it took Hans 20 months to leave Germany, given that the government did not want to lose its architects and other professionals abroad. Happily, the couple was married on October 18, 1953, within a week of Hans' arrival in Stockton. Indeed, that date marked the beginning of great things to come.

After starting a family and managing some of the largest construction projects ever undertaken in the Sacramento area up until that time, Hans and Alma desired to start their own company. Thus began Roebbelen Construction in 1957.

Roebbelen Construction has established a long history of excellent public construction projects, such as schools and prisons. However, over the last decade, the company has also successfully completed many design/build projects for private sector clients, including: J.C. Penney Co., MCI, General Motors, Aetna, Sears, SBC/Pacific Bell, Cable Data, Target, and other firms. Together with its sister company, Kleeman Roebbelen, it is now one of the largest local private companies in the Sacramento region. It is also the only general contractor in California to have received the ISO 9001:2000 designation from the International Organization for Standardization for the management of quality in a company's products and services.

Mr. Speaker, after spending so much of their lives with the firm they started, Hans and Alma recently retired from Roebbelen Construction. Now, they are blessed with the opportunity to enjoy the fruits of their labors. They often travel and spend quality time with their three children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Undoubtedly, the life Hans and Alma Roebbelen created together is a great American success story—one rooted in a love that has endured and grown for 50 years and counting.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 3, PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2003*

Mr. MOORE. I am tired of coming to the House floor and pleading for Congress to pass a law that will truly stop late-term abortions and put this issue behind us. If not for the extreme politics of this issue, Congress could take up and pass today H.R. 809, the Late Term Abortion Restriction Act. The legislation, which I have cosponsored, would prohibit all late-term abortions, regardless of procedure, with exceptions only to protect the life of the mother and to avert serious adverse health consequences.

The House was not allowed to vote on H.R. 809 today, which is a great shame, since it goes to the heart of this issue rather than using it as a campaign message. H.R. 809 addresses what the American people truly want to stop: the termination of a viable fetus during late stages of a pregnancy.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today voting once again on legislation that I fully expect to be ruled unconstitutional—once again—by the U.S. Supreme Court.

On June 28, 2000, in the ruling *Stenberg v. Carhart*, the high court struck down a Nebraska ban on so-called "partial-birth abortion," ruling that the ban was an unconstitutional violation of *Roe vs. Wade* for two reasons. First, the ban, which is virtually identical to the one that will soon be signed into law, was found to be unnecessarily broad and without a necessary health exception to protect the well-being of the mother.

Despite this ruling, the bill before us today corrects none of the flaws that were clearly outlined by the Court. Today's vote is just another purely political exercise.

Like its predecessors, S. 3 does not include an exception to protect the health of the woman, despite clear instructions from the Court in more than one decision since 1973 that any law restricting abortion must include such an exception. This bill, despite cosmetic changes, is still unconstitutional.

I believe a woman has a right to make important decisions regarding her body and health. I also believe that the state can and should regulate abortion after the point of fetal viability. These two principles were set forth in the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision.

Today, I will vote against S. 3. I urge my colleagues who truly wish to ban post-viability abortions to consider H.R. 809 as a real solution to this personal and political issue.

CHANGE IN RUSSIA

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 2003*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, it has been 12 years since the collapse of the Soviet Union and one of the most remarkable stories to